

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NDJAME 02017 300850Z

22

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 SCCT-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /091 W

----- 070921

R 291236Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2014

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NDJAMENA 2017

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CD

SUBJECT: MALLOUM PRESS CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY. GOC HEAD OF STATE GENERAL MALLOUM HELD PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 26 AT WHICH ALLEGED PERPETRATORS OF APRIL 13 GRENADE ATTACK WERE PRESENTED. PRESS (IN FACT MOSTLY GOC EMPLOYEES) THEN OFFERED QUESTIONS, SEVERAL ON VERY DELICATE SUBJECTS, WHICH MALLOUM FIELDLED WITHOUT REVEALING NEW POLICY DEPARTURES. PRESS CONFERENCE BROADCAST RADIO CHAD SAME EVENING AND PUBLISHED GOC DAILY BULLETIN JULY 27.

2. NINE MEN ACCUSED OF GRENADE ATTACK APRIL 13 WERE PRESENTED WITH ARMS ALLEGEDLY CAPTURED WITH THEM. ACCORDING GOC, ACCUSED ADMITTED DEED BUT SAID THEY WERE FOLLOWING ORDERS FROM FROLINAT (FRONT FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION OF CHAD) OF WHICH ATTACK LEADER A MEMBER SINCE 1971, AND FROM ITS ALGIERS OFFICE OF ABBA SIDDICK. AFTER RENDEZVOUS IN NIGERIA, ARMS PICKED UP FROM CACHE IN CAMEROON. LEADER ARRESTED APRIL 20. ARMS ALSO RECOVERED INTENDED FOR LATER GUERILLA ACTION.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NDJAME 02017 300850Z

COMMENT: GOC ACCOUNT HAS PLAUSIBLE DETAILS BUT DOES NOT

ANSWER QUESTION OF WHY ATTACKERS DID NOT SIMPLY FLEE IN SMALL BOATS ACROSS LOW-WATER CHARI AND DISAPPEAR IN CAMEROON. ARMS DISPLAYED REPORTEDLY OLD AND UNIMPRESSIVE.

3. ASKED WHAT STEPS GOC HAD TAKEN TO RECONCILE ABBA SIDDICK, MALLOUM SAID ALL FACTIONS OF FROLINAT HAD BEEN CONTACTED. SIDDICK HAD REFUSED TO SEE GOC AMBASSADOR IN ALGIERS, AND HUNG UP ON GENERAL DJOGO WHO TELEPHONE HIM WHILE BOTH IN PARIS. MALLOUM SAID SIDDICK UNREASONABLE AND NOT SERIOUS.

4. ASKED ABOUT LIBYAN OCCUPATION OF AREAS NORTHERN CHAD, MALLOUM SAID CHAD PREFERRED FRIENDLY SOLUTION TO UPROAR, BUT DEADLOCK IN TALKS WOULD PRODUCE GOC APPEAL TO UN AND OAU.

5. ASKED WHETHER OPEN LETTER ADDRESSED BY FORMER MINED NGANGBET TO GOC (NDJAMENA 1720) WAS REASON FOR HIS DEPARTURE CABINET, MALLOUM DID NOT ANSWER IN SUBSTANCE, BUT CALLED NGANGBET IRRESPONSIBLE. COMMENT: ON RADIO MALLOUM SOUNDED MORE RATTLED BY THIS QUESTION THAN BY ANY OTHER.

6. MALLOUM SAID FRENCH JOURNALISTS WHO JUST RETURNED FROM TIBESTI WERE PLAYING QUOTE SHADY GAME UNQUOTE, AND WOULD NOT ALTER GOC RECONCILIATION POLICY.

7. MALLOUM SAID SINCE GROUP (QUESTIONER SAID 278) OF REBELS, INCLUDING NONCOMBATTANT FAMILIES, CAME OVER TO GOC FROM MOUSSA'S FLT (FRONT FOR LIBERATION OF CHAD) IN EASTERN REGION, FLT IS QUOTE FILED AWAY UNQUOTE. EXPECTS TO TAKE SOME EX-FLT INTO ARMY.

8. ASKED ABOUT RECENT BORDER CLASH WITH NIGERIA (LAGOS 6112, NDJAMENA 1511), MALLOUM SAID INCIDENT REGRETTABLE FOR BOTH SIDES AND WOULD BE SMOOTHED OVER.

9. ASKED ABOUT RECENT STATEMENT BY GISCARD D'ESTAING THAT GOF UNDERTAKING SECRET INITIATIVE TO FREE MME CLAUSTRE, MALLOUM SAID GOC NOT QUITE AU COURANT UNQUOTE REGARDING UNDERTAKING.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NDJAME 02017 300850Z

10. ASKED ABOUT PARIS STATEMENT CAMEROON PRESIDENT AHIDJO THAT STUDY COMPLETED FOR MOUNDOU-NAGAOUNDERE RAILROAD, MALLOUM SAID HE NOT INFORMED.

11. ASKED WHETHER RECENT CABINET RESHUFFLE FOR EFFICIENCY, MALLOUM SAID IT FOR PUBLIC OPINION AS WELL AS EFFICIENCY.

12. MALLOUM DENIED THAT RECENT ORDER OF INTERIOR MINISTRY
(COMMENT: 4 DAYS' NOTICE REQUIRED FOR MARRIAGES, BAPTISMS,
OR OTHER SEMIPUBLIC CELEBRATIONS) DENIES DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES;
SAID GOC WOULD BE HELD RESPONSIBLE IN CASE MORE INJURIES
FROM GRENADES.

13. ASKED WHAT GOC WAS GOING TO DO ABOUT PRICES RAISED LOCAL
MARKETS IN DEFIANCE GOC PRICE FREEZE, MALLOUM SAID MERCHANTS
UNPATRIOTIC AND SELFISH, BUT POLICE COULD NOT STAND BEHIND EACH
ONE.

14. ASKED ABOUT CONTRADICTION BETWEEN STATED GOC HEALTH
PRIORITY AND LACK OF EVEN BANDAIDS IN HOSPITALS, MALLOUM SPOKE
VAGUELY OF SABOTAGE AND NOTED THAT SOLDIER (GENERAL DJOGO) HAS
JUST BEEN MADE HEALTH MINISTER. DWYER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, TERRORISTS, ARRESTS, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NDJAME02017
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760294-0909
From: NDJAMENA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976079/aaaaahsm.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALLOUM PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CD, (MALLOUM, FELIX)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006